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TERREP EXCLUSIVE SPECAT

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PTER, ASEC, CO
SUBJECT: OFFER TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING
- TERRORIST THREATS AGAINST EMBASSY

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT
2. ON LATE AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 8, EMBASSY RECEIVED

UPDATED THREE PAGE TYPEWRITTEN LETTER OFFERING TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING M-19 PLANS TO CARRY OUT TERRORIST ACTS AGAINST U.S.G. AND ITS "AGENTS." AUTHORS, EMPLOYING PSEUDONYMS ALEJANDRO AND MARTIZA, ASSERT THAT CERTAIN PAST AND PRESENT MISSION PERSONNEL, INCLUDING AMBASSADOR, HAVE BEEN OR ARE TARGETS OF M-19, WHICH IS IN LEAGUE WITH NARCOTICS TRAFFICKER CARLOS LEHDER. AS MEANS OF ESTABLISHING CREDIBILITY, AUTHORS SET FORTH A NUMBER OF STATEMENTS REGARDING PREVIOUSLY ABORTED M-19 PLANS; LIST TELEPHONE NUMBERS PURPORTEDLY TAPPED BY M-19; AND OFFER BRIEF COMMENTS ON ACTIVITIES OF THE M-19 AND THE

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NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS.

3. THE AUTHORS OFFER TO OPEN A CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION

WITH THE EMBASSY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION. THEY ARE WILLING TO DO SO BECAUSE THEY HAVE BECOME DISILLUSIONED WITH M-19 TACTICS. IN RETURN, THEY WANT U.S. ASSISTANCE TO LEAVE COLOMBIA AND RESETTLE ELSEWHERE IN LATIN AMERICA WITH NEW IDENTITIES.

4. A FOLLOW-UP LETTER, SUPPOSEDLY WRITTEN OCTOBER 7

AND RECEIVED IN MAIL LATE OCTOBER 9, SOUGHT FURTHER TO ESTABLISH SOURCES CREDIBILITY BY DESCRIBING MOVEMENTS THAT FORMER EMBASSY TDYER JOHN TORRES (CRSU) IS REPORTEDLY PLANNING IN PANAMA WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 13-14. TORRES IS BEING ADVISED AND CAUTIONED BY HIS AGENCY SEPARATELY.

5. COMMENT: LETTER BEARS MARKS OF SOMEONE WHO HAS

TAKEN TROUBLE TO FOLLOW ACTIVITIES OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL OVER A PERIOD OF MONTHS. IT REFERS SEVERAL TIMES TO "PAUL E. WILLIAMS," (POSSIBLY PAUL E. WILSON, FORMER HEAD OF CRSU WHO DEPARTED POST LATE LAST SEPTEMBER FOLLOWING HIS AUGUST 31 MARRIAGE TO A COLOMBIAN NATIONAL) AND TO JOHN TORRES (CRSU TDYER WHO DEPARTED POST LATE SEPTEMBER FOR PANAMA). THE AUTHOR(S) APPEAR TO BE WELL ACQUAINTED WITH TORRES AND WE CANNOT DISCOUNT POSSIBILITY OF PERSONAL ANIMUS. THESE LETTERS, WHICH CONTAIN NO CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE OF INSIDE INFORMATION REGARDING M-19 TERRORIST GROUPS, MAY BE RELATED TO THE THREATS DIRECTED AT PAUL WILSON LAST MONTH, POSSIBLY BY A DISAPPOINTED SUITOR. WE INFORMED NATIONAL POLICE INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT (F-2) OF THAT INCIDENT AND REQUESTED AN INVESTIGATION. WE ARE NONETHELESS TREATING THIS MATTER SERIOUSLY AND ARE MOVING URGENTLY ON APPROPRIATE COUNTER MEASURES.

6. ACTION TAKEN:

EAC MET TWICE OCTOBER 9, AND DECIDED ON FOLLOWING STEPS WHICH HAVE BEEN OR ARE NOW BEING TAKEN:

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- A. ALERT ALL INDIVIDUALS NAMED IN LETTER.
- B. CHECK VERIFIABLE ITEMS IN LETTER TO DETERMINE AUTHENTICITY.
- C. NOTIFY CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT (F-2) OF NATIONAL POLICE AND ENLIST F-2 EFFORTS IN EVALUATING AND EXPLOITING SOURCE, AS WELL AS TO OBTAIN RESULTS OF EARLIER INVESTIGATION.
- D. TIGHTEN EMBASSY'S COUNTER-SURVEILLANCE MEASURES.

FURTHER INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW AS DEVELOPED.

GILLESPIE

END OF MESSAGE

SECRET